

REMARKS

Claims 1-43 are pending in the application. Claims 1-43 are rejected. Claims 1, 6, 7, 9-18, 22-24, 26-30, and 32-43 are amended. Claims 44-45 are new. No new subject matter is added. Claims 1-45 are now pending in the application. In light of the above amendments and the foregoing remarks, reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-15, 17-20, 22-26, 28-32, 34-36, 38-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0024709 (Tsai). The applicant traverses the rejections.

Regarding claim 1, the claim has been amended to clarify that the optical lens group comprises two or more lenses and that the optical lens group is mounted in a fixed position relative to the optical sensor. The amended claim recites “mounting the optical-lens group in a fixed position relative to the optical sensor on the at least one groove of the optical-lens pedestal.” Tsai does not teach that its lens module 110 is mounted in a fixed position in its round opening 112. First, Tsai specifically teaches that the lens module 110 is movably mounted (which is the purpose of the round opening 112). *See* Tsai paragraph [0028]. Second, Tsai does not teach that its lens module 110 is mounted *in* its round opening 112; instead round opening 112 appears to be an integral part of lens module 110. *See* Tsai FIG. 5. Amended claim 1 further recites “the optical lens group comprising two or more optical lenses.” Tsai does not teach that its lens 30 includes more than one lens. For at least these reasons, claim 1 is not anticipated by Tsai because Tsai does not teach all of the features recited in the claim. Therefore, claim 1 is allowable over Tsai, as are dependent claims 2-3 and 5.

Regarding claim 6, the claim has been amended to clarify that the optical lens group is mounted on a groove in a fixed position relative to the optical sensor. As discussed above with respect to claim 1, Tsai does not teach that its lens module 110 is mounted on a groove or in a fixed position relative to its charge coupled device 125. Therefore, claim 6 is allowable over Tsai, as are dependent claims 7-9 and 11.

Regarding claim 12, the claim has been amended to clarify that the optical lens group comprises at least two optical lenses. As discussed above with respect to claim 1, Tsai does not teach that its lens module 110 includes more than one lens. Therefore, claim 12 is allowable over Tsai, as are dependent claims 13-15 and 17.

Further regarding claims 3, 8, and 14, the claims refer to a fastening cover arranged such that the optical lens group is fixed between the optical lens pedestal and the fastening cover. The Office Action proposes that this feature is taught in FIG. 1 of Tsai. *See* Office Action page 3. To the contrary, FIG. 1 of Tsai does not show its lens 30 as being between anything. FIG. 1 of Tsai shows the lens 30 simply sitting on an unidentified element. The remainder of the disclosure of Tsai does not remedy this deficiency. For at least this additional reason, claims 3, 8, and 14 are allowable over Tsai.

Further regarding claims 5, 11, and 17, the claims refer to the fastening cover being fixed to the optical lens pedestal by screws. The Office Action proposes that this feature is taught in Tsai at “Page 2 Paragraph 0025.” *See* Office Action page 3. However, as discussed above, Tsai does not teach a fastening cover, and therefore cannot teach a fastening cover fixed by screws. Further, the word ‘screw’ is not found anywhere in paragraph [0025] and so the applicant does not understand how this portion of Tsai could anticipate the claims, which specifically recite ‘screws’. The applicant would like to further point out that claims 11 and 17 recite several features that are not mentioned in the rejections of these claims. For example, the claims recite “a plurality of first screw holes” and “a plurality of second screw holes.” The Office Action has not pointed to any teachings of Tsai as anticipating these features and the applicant finds no such teachings. For at least these additional reasons, claims 5, 11, and 17 are allowable over Tsai.

Further regarding claims 7, 9, 13, and 15, the Office Action states “[c]onsidering claim 7, which is representative of claims 9, 13, and 15, Tsai teaches...” *See* Office Action page 4. However, claims 7, 9, 13, and 15 do not all recite the same features. For example, claims 7 and 13 refer to the cross-sectional shape of a channel in the optical lens pedestal, while claims 9 and 15 refer to the cross-sectional shape of a channel in the fastening cover. The Office Action proposes that FIGS. 1 and 7 of Tsai teach all of these features. However, neither FIG. 1 nor FIG. 7 teaches a fastening cover or a channel. For at least these additional reasons, claims 7, 9, 13, and 15 are allowable over Tsai.

Regarding claims 18 and 23, the claims have been amended to clarify that the optical lens group comprises two or more lenses and that the optical lens group is mounted on a groove in a fixed position relative to the optical sensor. As discussed above with respect to claim 1, Tsai does not teach these features. Consequently, claims 18 and 23 are allowable over Tsai, as are dependent claims 19-20, 22, 24-26, and 28.

Further regarding claims 20, 22, 25, 26, and 28, the claims recite several features that are not taught in Tsai including: a fastening cover, screws, a second channel in the fastening cover, first screw holes, and second screw holes. The Office Action has not pointed to any specific teachings in Tsai as anticipating these features, and the applicant finds no such teachings. For at least these additional reasons, claims 20, 22, 25, 26, and 28 are allowable over Tsai.

Regarding claims 29, 35, and 39, the claims have been amended to clarify that the optical lens group includes two or more optical lenses. As discussed above with respect to claim 1, Tsai does not teach this feature. Consequently, claims 29, 35, and 39 are allowable over Tsai, as are dependent claims 30-31, 32, 34, 36, 38, and 40-43.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 4, 10, 16, 21, 27, 33 and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsai in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,444,978 (Mukaibatake). The applicant traverses the rejections.

Claims 4, 10, 16, 21, 27, 33, and 37 depend from claims 1, 6, 12, 18, 23, 29, and 35, and inherently contain the features of these claims. Consequently, claims 4, 10, 16, 21, 27, 33, and 37 are allowable over the combination of Tsai and Mukaibatake at least because any claim that depends from a nonobvious independent claim is also nonobvious.

Further regarding claims 10, 16, 27, 33, and 37, these claims recite “a plurality of hooking ditches.” The Office Action has not pointed to any teachings in either Tsai or Mukaibatake as teaching these features and the applicant submits that there is no such teaching. Specifically, Tsai does not teach hooks (as acknowledged by the Office Action) and so has no reason to teach hooking ditches. Further, Mukaibatake specifically teaches that its hooks 70 engage with springs 71 and are affixed to a partition 4. *See* Mukaibatake col. 4, lines 3-14. Therefore, Mukaibatake does not teach hooking ditches engaging with its hooks. Consequently,

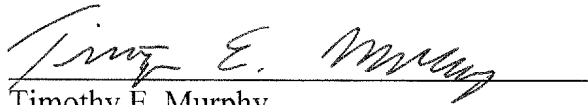
neither Tsai nor Mukaibatake teaches the hooking ditches recited in the claims and thus, the claims are allowable over the combination of Tsai and Mukaibatake.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims is requested. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at 503-222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Timothy E. Murphy", is written over a horizontal line.

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